Docket No.: 0649-0964P

REMARKS

Status of the Claims

Claims 1 and 5-18 are currently pending in the application. Claims 1 and 5-18 are allowed. In order to overcome the objection in paragraph 2 of the Office Action, claims 17 and 18 have been amended in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions in the Quayle Action dated December 8, 2006. The amendments to claims 17 and 18 are clearly non-narrowing claim amendments. Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter.

In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Marc S. Weiner, Reg. No. 32,181 at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.14; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated:

JAN 3 1 2007

Respectfully submitted,

Marc S. Weiner

Registration No.: 32,181

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

8110 Gatehouse Road

Suite 100 East

P.O. Box 747

Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747

(703) 205-8000

Attorney for Applicant